

Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 PM-09 SS-15 IGA-02 ABF-01 INR-10

DODE-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 RSR-01

AID-20 NSC-10 NEA-10 /094 W
----- 115959

R 050915 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6504

INFO USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 0991

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, SU

SUBJECT: U. S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO SUDAN

REF: (A) STATE 074623; (B) STATE 074632

(C) KHARTOUM 902; (D) STATE 080142 NOTAL

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: SUDANESE ARMY PROCEEDING SELECT OFFICER FOR CGSC TRAINING AND REITERATES REQUEST FOR EXPANDED TRAINING IN FY 74. TEN PERCENT DELBSIT AGREEMENT BEING CONSIDERED. END SUMMARY.

2. CGSC TRAINING: CHARGE INFORMED FONOFF APR 28 (UNDERSEC FADL OBEID) AND ARMY MAY 3 (BRIGGEN HAMID KHALIL) USG WILLINGNESS ACCEPT SUDAN OFFICER FOR CGSC SESSION BEGINNING JUNE 73. PRESENTATION ALSO OUTLINED BACKGROUND AND REQUIREMENT FOR AGREEMENT TEN PERCENT DEPOSIT, IN ADDITION TO TEXT FORMAL NOTE, CHARGE LEFT AIDE MEMOIRE CONTAINING SUBSTANCE PARAS 1 - 3 REFTEL B AND SENT BRIEF LETTER TO PRESIDENT NOTING USG RESPONSE HIS PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS WILH FORMER DCM MOORE ON PARTICIPATION SUDANESE OFFICER AT CGSC. OBEID SAID HE WOULD TRANSMIT MATERIAL TO FONMIN MANSOUR KHALID AND THAT HE ANTICIPATED NO PROBLEM WITH DEPOSIT REQUIREMENT. DURING CONVERZUTION, CHARGE STRESSED EXCEPTIONAL EFFORT USG HAD MADE IN INITIATING CGSC TRAINING IN FY 73 AND OUR HOPE FOR MODEST
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TRAINING PROGRAM IN FY 74 WHICH WAS, HOWEVER, CONTINUED UPON CONGRESSIONAL APPROPRIATIONS WHICH WOULD BE DIFFICULT. OBEID APPEARED TO RECOGNIZE THESE FACTORS. BRIG GEN HAMID KHALIL EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR CGSC TRAINING, BUT DWELT ON STRONG SUDANESE ARMY INTEREST IN RAPID EXPANSION TRAINING PROGRAM IN US.

3. GENERAL U. S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE.

A. FOREIGN MINISTER VIEWS: DURING APR 21 CHARGE ON FONMIN MANSOUR KHALID DURING WHICH CHARGE ALLUDED HE WOULD BE DISCUSSING MILITARY ASSISTANCE IN NEAR FUTURE (KHARTOUM 902), MANSOUR SUMMARIZED BACKGROUND GOS REQUEST BY NOTING SUDANESE ARMY NEEDED EXTENSIVE ASSISTANCE IN TRANSPORTATION AND TRAINING. MOST OF SUDAN BORDER WAS UNDEFENDED AND BORDER DIFFICULTIES WITH ELF CONTINUE. ARMY MUST BE MOBILE AND IT CURRENTLY IS NOT. FONMIN EMPHASIZED ARMY' S NEED FOR EQUIPMENT AND REFERRED PENDING REQUEST FOR C-130 AIRCRAFT. CHARGE REPLIED HE WAS HOPEFUL SOME TRAINING MIGHT BEGIN IN NEAR FUTURE (CGSC), BUT WHILE AIRCRAFT WERE STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION HE WAS NOT OPTIMISTIC.

B. SUDAN ARMY VIEWS: DURING MAY 3 DISCUSSION BRIGGEN KHALIL EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR CGSC OPENING, BUT DWELT WITH IMPATIENCE ON USG DELAY IN RESPONDING TO WHAT HE FELT WERE MODEST GOS REQUESTS FOR US TRAINING. HE CONTRASTED US DELAY WITH RAPID RESPONSE GOS HAD RECEIVED FROM UK WHICH WOULD BE TRAINING OVER 80 SUDANESE PERSONNEL IN UK DURING NEXT TWELVE MONTHS AND WHO WOULD ALSO SEND A TRAINING GROUP FROM CYPRUS TO CONDUCT A COURSE IN THE SUDAN ON COMPANY LEVEL TACTICS FOR APPROXIMATELY 30 OFFICERS. HE EMPHASIZED GOS WITHDRAWAL ITS PERSONNEL FROM TRAINING FROM COMMUNIST COUNTRIES HAD LEFT LARGE VOID WHICH MUST BE FILLED IN ORDER TO SATISFY MILITARY TRAINING REQUIREMENTS AND JUSTIFY GOS POLICY SHIFT. HE NOTED HE HAD PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED EMBASSY WITH OUTLINE FY 74 TRAINING PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS AND HE WAS DISAPPOINTED CGSC OPENING WAS ONLY USG RESPONSE TO DATE. KHALIL STRESSED HE HAD EMPHASIZED DURING SEPT 72 WASHINGTON VISIT THAT US MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO SUDAN MUST BE VIEWED IN POLITICAL RATHER THAN ECONOMIC TERMS. CHARGE REITERATED USG EXCEPTIONAL EFFORT TO DATE INCLUDING KHALIL/ SHALLALI AND BURBUR ORIENTATION TRIPS, OUTLINED USG BUDGETING AND CONGRESSIONAL PROCEDURES, STRESSED USG FLEXIBILITY IN PROVIDING CGSC TRAINING THIS FISCAL YEAR, AND STATED USG HOPE INSTITUTE MODEST PROGRAM IN FY 74 WHICH WOULD PROBABLY NOT, HOWEVER, MEET ALL OF KHALIL' S WISHES. KHALIL
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CONSULTED HIS TRAINING LIST AND NOTED HE WAS PREPARED TO ASSIGN PRIORITIES WHEN HE KNEW WHAT WAS AVAILABLE. CHARGE INQUIRED EXTENT WHICH GOS SEEKING MILITARY TRAINING ELSEWHERE IN ADDITION TO UK. KHALIL RESPONDED PRIMARILY INDIA AND PAKISTAN, BUT THAT US WAS A KEY COMPONENT IN SUDANESE TRAINING PLANS.

5. EMB UNCLEAR WHETHER KHALIL LIST TRAINING REQUESTS WAS

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED. COPY IS ACCORDINGLY BEING POUCHED STATE
(AF/ N).

6. EMB DEBRIEFING OF GEN. BURBUR, ARMY INSPECPOR GENERAL
RECENTLY RETURNED FROM US, INDICATED HIS TRIP WAS VERY SUCCESSFUL,
HE WAS IMPRESSED BY US AND US ARMY TRAINING AND PLANS TO
INSTITUTE A NUMBER OF INNOVATIONS IN THE SUDANESE ARMY BE
EARLY 1974.

7. COMMENT: FONMIN AND BRIGGEN KHALIL VIEWS REFLECT EXTENT TO
WHICH GOS HAS BECOME IMPATIENT WITH LACK SUBSTANTIAL USG RESPONSE
TO GOS REQUESTS FOR MILITARY TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT. WE ARE
GOING TO HAVE TO LIVE WITH THAT REACTION IN THE ABSENCE OF A
MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO THE SUDAN BEYOND WHAT WE EITHER
WISH OR ARE ABLE TO PROVIDE. IT IS ALSO APPARENT THAT ONLY
LACK OF EMB/ MILITARY CONTACT FOLLOWING KHARTOUM
ASSASSINATIONS HAS PREVENTED GOS FROM BEING MORE VOCAL ON ITS
TRAINING AS WELL AS C-130 REQUESTS.
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